

### **Key findings from the School Safety Survey: Policies, Programs, and Practices**

The results from the survey have been highlighted here. It can be inferred from the surveys that almost all the public schools in Arizona have some basic policies, programs and practices in place to maintain safe school environments.

- A good majority of the schools have some method of monitoring access to campus as a safety mechanism such as visitor sign-ins, and controlling access to building. Many have zero tolerance policies for violence, fighting, weapons, firearms, and substance abuse. Few schools monitor their students through dress codes, IDs, random checks, and metal detectors.
- Most of the schools have a plan for crisis, prevention, behavior modification, counseling, peer mediation, and hotlines.
- Many schools provide training in classroom management, review school-wide discipline practices, and use regularly paid law-enforcement to reduce/ prevent violence.
- Many schools involve parents in school safety with mechanisms like parental input on policies and provision of technical assistance.
- Many schools have School Resource Officers but not many have Probationary Officers.
- Not many schools train teachers in recognizing early warning signs and even they tend to average very few hours of training.
- While many schools do not perceive too many factors limiting the schools efforts in reducing or preventing crime, many do consider limitations from lack of teacher training in classroom management and alternative programs for disruptive students.

It becomes evident from the tables that Arizona public schools are concerned with issues of safety and have various policies, programs, and practices in place to address the same. It is essential for schools to evaluate their safety efforts continually and take proactive steps as dictated by their local needs.